Thomas A. Edison Papers Digital Edition

Edison-Miller Family Records

Family Records Series, Part V

[F5G03-F] Madeleine Edison Sloane (1915)

Family Records Series -- Edison Family Papers -- Other Family Members

Title
[F5G03-F] Madeleine Edison Sloane (1915)

Description
The one selected item is a 1915 letter by Miller Reese Hutchison, Edison's chief engineer, inviting Madeleine Edison Sloane, the inventor's daughter, to come to the Navy Yard in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, to "break the bottle" on the new L-8 submarine. The L-8 was the first submarine to be built by the Navy itself rather than by a private company and the first submarine to be equipped with an Edison storage battery. Hutchison also informs Madeleine that he has received verification of another battery order (for the E-2 submarine) "to the tune of $85,000" and mentions sales to the Navy of carbolic acid and battery cells for emergency wireless equipment on ships. "Altogether, I am quite well pleased with my day's work, which aggregates $415,000." Hutchison received a commission of 20 percent on all batteries sold to the Navy.

URL

https://edisondigital.rutgers.edu/folder/F5G03-F

Identifier

F5G03-F

Type

Family Records

Rights

Courtesy of Thomas Edison National Historical Park.

Is Part Of

Family Records Series -- Edison Family Papers -- Other Family Members

Alternative Title

Madeleine Edison Sloane (1915)

Has Version

Archive.org Viewer, Microfilm Series Reel 286

Attribution

CC0 1.0 Universal

[F5G03AA], Letter from Miller Reese Hutchison to Madeleine Edison, March 20th, 1915

Title
[F5G03AA], Letter from Miller Reese Hutchison to Madeleine Edison, March 20th, 1915

Author
Hutchison, Miller Reese

Recipient
Edison, Madeleine

Mentioned

- U.S. Navy
- E-2 (Submarine)
- L-8 (Submarine)
- Daniels, Josephus
- Edison, Thomas Alva

Date
1915-03-20

Type
Letter

Subject

- Sales and service
- Submarines and submarine warfare
- Electric battery
- Chemicals, chemical products, and chemical processes

Folder ID
F5G03-F

Microfilm ID
286:122

Document ID
F5G03AA

URL
https://edisondigital.rutgers.edu/document/F5G03AA

Rights
Thomas Edison National Historical Park

Publisher
Thomas A. Edison Papers, School of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers University

License
CC0 1.0 Universal

Timestamp
20 March 1915

Has Version
Archive.org Viewer, Microfilm Series Reel 286

Created with PDiiif v0.2.3
https:/pdiiif.jbaiter.de

https://edisondigital.rutgers.edu/iiif/2/F5G03AA/manifest

March 20, 1915.

My dear "Miss Madeline",

As you doubtless know, the only submarine boat the United States Government has ever undertaken to build in any of its Navy Yards, will be equipped with Edison Storage Battery.

The boat will be built in the Portsmouth, New Hampshire, Navy Yard, and launched there.

The thought has occurred to me that it would be a befitting thing if the daughter of Mr. Thomas A. Edison could be the one to break the bottle on the nose of the submarine, when she takes to the water. I have not mentioned the matter to the Secretary of the Navy, because I wanted to get your permission, before doing so.

Would you be so kind as to give me an expression on the subject?

You will please pardon this dictated letter, because I am talking it into my phonograph at 2 A. M., after a very strenuous day in Washington, and with a very strenuous day ahead of me.

It will interest you to know that I received confirmation today of the sale of 7,500 Type B-4 cells ($60,000.00 worth) for the emergency wireless equipment on seventy-five ships. I also received verificat-

ion of another order for a submarine boat to the tune of $85,000.00. Incidentally, closed contract with the Navy Department for 270,000 pounds of carbolic acid. Other orders will follow to a much greater extent, if your Father can supply. Altogether, I am quite well pleased with my day's work, which aggregates $415,000.00.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. John E. Sloane,
15 West 8th Street,
New York City.